

The danger is not that either France or China will deliberately declare war, or officially rush into hostilities, but that the two countries will drift into war in Tonquin, through, as it were, force of circumstances. Presuming that the French, knowing full well that they are fighting Imperial soldiers at Bac Ninh, are contented to drive any hostile force opposed to them out of Tonquin, and do not choose to adopt retaliatory measures against the Chinese Government—supposing the French will exhibit such a forbearing spirit, the questions will arise: where the pursuit by the French troops is to end, and if the Black Flags and their allies are to be allowed to take refuge on Chinese territory, ready to pour down again at the next favourable opportunity into the Tonquin delta. The French undertook, in their recent treaty with the King of Annam, to exterminate the Black Flags. This they are not likely to be able to do, so long as these marauders, and the Chinese fighting with them, have a secure retreat across the Chinese frontier, where probably thousands more of Imperial troops would be waiting either to afford them protection, or to perform the despicable duty of receiving the men who had been fighting the battles of the Empire at the point of the bayonet. If there are large forces of Imperial troops in Yunnan, and the Chinese Government is determined to prevent the French from acquiring that country, war between France and China will practically commence with the attack upon Bac Ninh. The only question then would be if the French thought it advisable to confine the war for the time being to Tonquin, when they might more speedily bring the Chinese Government to reason by operations against the centre of Government. If both the French and the Chinese Governments are in earnest, the greater hope is not in the war being confined to Tonquin, but in the successful mediation of the Great Powers.

TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 7th December.

At the Mohel is not advancing on Khartoum the panic is subsiding.

8th December.

Negotiations continue between the Marquis Tseng and M. Ferry.

The Sydney conference has decided upon the formation of a Federal Council to deal with the common affairs of the colonies.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The O.S.S. Co.'s steamer *Deception* left Singapore on the 6th instant; due here on or about the 12th instant.

The S.S. *Glenarvon* left Singapore on the 5th instant; due here on or about the 12th instant.

The *Overland China Mail* of to-morrow will contain our report of the St. Andrew's Ball.

Jewellery will be delivered to-morrow forenoon at 10.30 in the case of the *Peking* v. *Mount Lebanon*.

The *Sachsen* went to the Kowloon Dock today. The S.S. *Japan* left the same dock, and the S.S. *Kunming* left the Cosmopolitan Dock to-day.

The German frigate *Storch* left the harbour this morning, and proceeded up the Canton River. The U. S. S. *Essex*, Commander H. McCormick, arrived here to-day from the North.

H. M. troopship *Orontes*, Captain H. G. Andoe, with reliefs on board for H. M.'s ships *Champion*, *Cleopatra*, *Daring*, *Flying Fish*, *Midge*, and *Zephyr*, arrived here from England yesterday morning.

The American *torcha Wrecker* has been sold for the sum of \$200 to Chinese, who intend breaking her up. We are informed that the Government made an offer for her, presumably to use her as a torpedo target.

The ballot at the United Service Lodge on Saturday last for officers for the ensuing year, resulted in the election of Bro. G. O'Leary to the post of W. M., Bro. Hatcher being appointed Treasurer, and Bro. Maxwell, Tyler. We hear that the masons contemplate celebrating their anniversary this year with a banquet instead of a ball.

ACCORDING to the *Mauritius Argus*, Sir John Pope Hennessy has written to the editor of the Chinese press who were collecting subscriptions for erecting a statue of Sir John in Hongkong, stating that while he was deeply touched by this manifestation of regard on the part of Mr. Ho Anai and his clique, he is opposed to the erection of the statue. He advises these Chinese to use any funds they have collected for the formation of an association to defend their interests, and at the same time suggests to them the idea of having in London an agent or representative who will act as their mouthpiece in communicating with the Home Government in case of necessity.

This appears to us not only a malicious suggestion, but an insult to the existing Government; here the inference to be drawn from it being that the Chinese are not fairly treated in Hongkong, and that their grievances are not fairly represented to the Home Government. The climate of *Mauritius* evidently is not agreeing with Sir John. He broods over his promotion backwards, and, in his spleen, attempts to raise up class distinctions here again. He wants to create here a Chinese association, which will pay men to ferret out imaginary Chinese grievances, to work up a lot of ill-feeling upon them, and then to snub the Governor by attempting to get the views of a clique laid, through a private source, before the Home Authorities. The whole sugges-

tion is characteristic of Sir John Pope Hennessy.

Sir John is already commencing to create class distinctions in *Mauritius*. Under the significant heading of "Mauritius for the Mauritians," the *Argus* gives the following item:—"We are informed that one of the Government doctors, being obliged recently to go on leave on account of ill-health, got one of his professional brethren of English origin to act for him. The Governor has informed the head of the department that he does not wish to see this repeated. Why give the news under all reserve? Why a doctor of English origin should not act as a temporary substitute for another medical man in an English colony we fail to understand."

The Chinese papers quote a letter from a correspondent of the *Shen Pau*, to the effect that General Lin, of the Black Flags, is, after all, not a former Taiping rebel. He is a Canton man who has resided in Annam for over 20 years. At first he was engaged in business, but, having rendered valuable assistance in putting down rebellion, he was rewarded and promoted both by the Chinese and the Annamese Government. He is about 50 years of age, and has no beard. The writer professes to have lived long in Annam and to have a personal knowledge of the facts, but he does not give his true name. He is a "Man of the sea."

The careless way in which the Chinese papers translate foreign names is sometimes very amusing, and sometimes seemingly important. Sir Harry Parkes is usually "Pa Kwai," i.e. His Excellency Pa, or "Pa Hui," i.e. Parkes Harry; but the *Chung-kuo-tsun-pao* always gives Shampin-pai, and, when referring to the same gentleman in brief terms, Sha Kwai, i.e. His Excellency Sha, as though Sha, which stands for Sir, were his surname.

Our correspondent at Hanoi writes to a member of our staff here as follows, under date of Nov. 29th:—

"On the occasion of my visit to Hanoi in August last, I wrote you a short letter descriptive of my rustic mode of life in this capital of the new 'Land of promise' of the Far East, and I remember that our Editor inserted the same in the columns of the *China Mail*, with a remark that it was more entertaining than my communication at that particular time on the 'military operations.' I am therefore quite prepared to see the following personal notes exposed to the public gaze."

"The days with Marianna in the 'Mosted Grange' are over and gone. Marianna's son and heir recognised me as I passed the Grange a few days since, and rushed out and clasped me by the knees, soliciting a blessing—in the form of a *oumshaw*. Alas! for the sordid nature of aboriginal affections."

Nobody here has yet thought of establishing a decent hotel, or even restaurant, but my present landlord Mons. G. —, a Montenegrin, has run up, on a piece of ground at the back of his "run mill" or wine shop, a number of small cabins, built of bamboo and plaster, and it is in one of these humble dwellings that your correspondent has the fortune or misfortune to hang out. The original furniture of the establishment consisted of a kind of bedstead with bamboo bars to lie upon, but being of a somewhat luxurious nature I have indulged in a few extras, amongst others a mattress, which, on the first night of using it, I discovered to be stuffed with wet grass instead of hay. The native upholsterer who provided the article informed me that it would become hay by and by. Our "square" comprises quite a little farmyard. One pony, a number of geese, turkeys and fowls and several dogs, mugs to keep the place lively with their natural music. The residents, to the number of seven or eight, compose a very bizarre and cosmopolitan gathering. One gentleman, an Alsatian by birth, has spent much of his life in California and British Columbia as a gold miner, and is now awaiting the time when he may prospect the rivers and gulches beyond Sontai, which are reported to be rich in the precious metal. Another, a Swiss, is a large importer of wine, and is here to take orders, while a third is going to open a store shortly. Our landlord himself is a curiosity. Originally a seaman, he has for a long time been a resident in Tonquin. He speaks a little of many tongues, including Chinese and Annamese, while his repertoire of Anglo-Saxon oaths is both choice and copious. He has had the experience of being a prisoner in the hands of the Black Flags and saved his head, and he is a sound philosopher. On the occasion of the panic here after the death of Riviere, he declined to desert his house, but hid himself in a with barrel in the back yard. Why should he leave it? His capital was looked up in his house and stock, and if he lost that life had no charms for him. So he waited, *caché* in his tub, through the dreary night, and though the house still shows the marks and holes made by the shot, it was saved, though most of the buildings up to within a couple of hundred yards were sacked and fired by the Black Flags.

"Our dining room is the grog shop or saloon itself, and there is generally a goodly company of blue-coats making merry with their asinities, &c., while we are engaged in our evening amusements. Over the entrance I will draw a veil as I too gallant to disparage the efforts of our host's native better-half."

"The weather here has been anything but agreeable lately. Black, cloudy skies, with no sun visible for several days at a time, and frequent showers of light rain, or rather 'Scottish mist.' The original *Mercator* Dopley could here luxuriate in a second Eden, with the additional excitement of being reminded half-a-dozen times a day that he carries his head very insecurely on his shoulders."

On Saturday evening, the Loftus Troupe gave an entirely different form of dramatic entertainment from that which they had given at their previous performances here. Up to Saturday evening, the public had been treated either to comic opera or comedy of the liveliest description; on Saturday they were treated to a drama of a highly sensational and 'savage' character. To give a satisfactory rendering of "Queen's Evidence," the drama performed, is by no means an easy task; and the company are to be heartily congratulated on their fairly successful exposition of the piece. Some of the characters could hardly have been better portrayed than they were, especially that of *Kate Medland* by Miss Victoria Loftus and *Jonas Isaac* by Mr. Jeff D'Angela; but others again were but poorly imitated. But, perhaps, it would be better before criticising the actors, to give our readers some idea of the nature of the events and characters they took upon themselves to depict. The plot is a powerfully conceived one, and contains several very exciting incidents. In the first scene we are introduced to the bright and happy home of *Gilbert Medland*, a railway clerk at Oakwood Junction, and his wife, the hero and heroine of the story. Later on we are introduced to *Sir Frederick Sydney*, who is desirous of procuring *Medland's* child; with the view of effecting his wife's recovery. Unable to induce the mother to part with her child on any terms, he employs a Jew, *Jonas Isaac*, whom he afterwards discovers to his disgust to be most unscrupulous character. This Jew is in league with a fellow-worker of *Medland's*, named *Matthew Thornton*, who was at one time the lover of *Mrs. Medland*, and who still affects to care for her. *Isaac* coins a quantity of false money, and *Thornton* disposes of portions of it by opening *Medland's* desk during his absence, abstracting good coins and replacing them with bad, thus throwing the guilt on *Medland*. Having done this, he visits *Medland's* house while *Mrs. Medland* is out shooting, and there endeavours to make *Mrs. Medland* believe that she still loves her, and that her husband has been guilty of embezzling bad money. *Mrs. Medland* indignantly refuses to believe this; *Thornton* presses his suit more ardently. While thus engaged, *Medland*, whose jealousy has been aroused by insinuations made by the Jew, returns to the house. Maddened beyond control at what he saw, he fires at *Thornton*, who is only saved by *Mrs. Medland* rushing in before her husband. By this act she loses her eyesight. During the confusion, the wily Jew rushes into the room where the child of the *Medlands* is sleeping, and removes it unobserved. *Medland* declines to listen to his wife's pleading; thinks his wife guilty of removing his child, and rushes from the house. He escapes the law by going to Canada, and five years afterwards returns to his native country, bearing the name of Philip Stanford, rich, and, strangely enough, visits the house of *Sir Frederick Sydney*, the gentleman who adopted the stolen child, unaware that it had been stolen. There he meets *Thornton*, the Jew, and, latterly, his wife. *Thornton* endeavours to cause *Mrs. Medland's* death by leading her over a swing lock bridge, one end of which he opens. She is rescued by her husband, with the assistance of *Isaac*. Baffled in this, and discovering that *Isaac* knows his story and has a letter in his possession which would inevitably lead to his detection over the coins, *Thornton* murders *Sir Frederick* in order to get hold of this document, which he was assured by *Isaac* was in *Sir Frederick's* possession. He also has *Isaac* arrested. The Jew, however, does as he threatened to do, turns "Queen's Evidence," and procures *Thornton's* arrest. *Kate Medland* recovers her sight, and is restored to her husband and child. *Thornton* is discovered to be the murderer of *Sir Frederick*, and the daughter of the latter is saved from falling into the clutches of the villain *Thornton*, who wanted to marry her, by the niece of *Sir Frederick* denouncing him as the man who had married her, and afterwards deserted her.

In our opinion the character of *Kate Medland* was played almost to perfection by Miss Victoria Loftus. Her interpretation of the part throughout was most vivid and real. It was decidedly the most meritorious performance in the play. Mr. Jeff D'Angela's *Jonas Isaac*, or, as he was styled later, *Levant Eye*, was one of the most amusing characters that was ever created. His action and speech during the whole of the time he was on the stage were intensely funny, yet at the same time in perfect harmony with his conception—a very true one, we think—of the character. Mr. Mass made a very indifferent *Gilbert Medland*, and Mr. C. J. Barber was by no means equal to the task of delineating the desperate villain *Matthew Thornton*. This style of character is evidently not in Mr. Barber's line. The other ladies and gentlemen played their respective parts very creditably.

To-morrow evening, the Company will present for the first time here the comic opera, "The Contrabandists, or the Law of the Landlords." It will be preceded by the performance of a comedieta entitled "Scroggins's Adventure," "La Mascotte" is promised for Friday night, when there will no doubt be a bumper house.

We (N.C.D. News) are in a position to state that a satisfactory basis of settlement has been arrived at by the Commission on the Canton claims. With one of the Commissioners, an official from Manchuria, is going to Canton to arrange details, having already consulted upon the matter with the Hon. T. G. Grosvenor, who leaves for Brussels as soon as released by Sir Harry Parkes.

The *Ngaikin* leaves this morning (Dec. 5th) for the River Ports. It may be remarked in this connection that the history of this vessel affords a remarkable instance of the rapidity with which a vessel can be constructed and despatched. The *Ngaikin* was lost on 6th January of this year, and the *Ngaikin*, of nearly 2,000 tons burden, to take her place, has been designed, built, despatched to China and then loaded for the River Ports, in eleven months.—N.C.D. News.

This Independent of the 27th of the month publishes the following:—The news from Hanoi brought by the transport *Tonkin*, which arrived on Saturday morning, differs little from what the English journals have already told us. According, however, to information given by the transport officers, the military movements now being prepared will be directed, not on Saturday, but on Bac Ninh, as Admiral Courbet believes it preferable not to attempt the passage of the Day, the banks of which are fortified, while it is not only possible but relatively easy to throw troops across from the other bank of the Canal due Rapids to a point distant from the Hanoi passage, the banks of which alone are guarded, and immediately march on Bac Ninh by land. The *Lynn*, *Leopard*, and *Leopard* have been brought up, so as to enable them to participate in the operations and facilitate the movements of the troops. The number of Chinese troops sent to defend Bac Ninh is estimated, according to the latest information, at 25,000, well armed and equipped, sufficiently supplied with provisions and munitions, and readily conforming to the discipline of their European instructors. Amongst the troops, a staff officer, who is some Belgian and Italian officers, but there is nothing to show that this statement is correct.

NOTES FROM THE METROPOLIS.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

London, Nov. 2.

The various grumblers should find little cause of complaint in the weather of this year of grace 1888. The Spring was brilliant, the Summer the best we have had for years and the Autumn has been just what an English Autumn should be. I was in the Park last Sunday, and found people sitting under the half leafless trees, enjoying to the full the calm breeze and bright sunshine. I believe that a man who has been in the East for an length of time is very well fitted to fully appreciate English weather. Many complaints have lately been made to me by men home for a trip. "I've had a cold ever since I came home," said one, "I shall be glad to get out of this chilly climate," said another, while any one used to it could find no fault with the bracing air. It is good enough for your correspondent, however, who never wore a top coat all last winter, except at night.

All London was startled on Wednesday morning by reading of the terrible occurrence which, happening in two distinct parts of our underground railway, show that the plot-mongers are still busy in our midst, and that those who make use of dynamite for political purposes are scotch, perhaps, but not killed. Little beyond the mere fact that explosions, occurred at Fagat Street and Westminster has yet been elicited, but there is little doubt that the tremendous explosions which injured many passengers on both lines of railway, were the result of concerted action. We all sincerely hope that our police are equal to the occasion and will bring this great crime home to the villains who recklessly murder innocent citizens and throw the whole community into a state of alarm and terror. One result of these explosions was that the arrangements of the underground railway were entirely thrown out for three hours and more, and thousands of people, strangers to London, coming many miles from the country and relying on their through tickets to convey them to Fenchurch St. and other termini, perforce had to stay the night in London.

The autobiography of Anthony Trollope is before us, just published by Blackwoods, and I find it most interesting reading than most of his novels. £70,000 is the amount he has amassed by steady, diligent work. Although for the "Three Clerks" he received only £250, yet his average was about £1,550. Unlike many great writers, he was punctual, systematic and a pattern of industry. The whole of his autobiography, teaches as clearly as perhaps no other book has more clearly taught that methodical pertinacity is one of the means of attaining eminence. It is delightful reading and is rich in frank criticisms of the author's productions, peculiarities, and it affords, as I have pointed out, a striking proof of what can be achieved by ability and industry combined.

Some time back the Polytechnic Institution was taken by the Young Men's Christian Association. In addition to the improvement of mind which doubtless enters largely into the evening meetings, "Muscular Christianity" has not been forgotten. A fine gymnasium has been added to the attractions of the place, and the third Assault of Arms was held there on Saturday evening last, when the displays of fencing, boxing, single stick, vaulting, and other mainly exercises, were exceedingly satisfactory to the large concourse of visitors assembled.

The volunteers are progressing. On Saturday a very important series of operations were carried out by those troops of the Northern Districts of London, who, with an imaginary enemy, encamped near the Alexandra Palace. From the rallying point, parties and patrols were sent out over the various lanes, footpaths and highways, ton miles of road being thus occupied. The orders were perfectly carried out, notwithstanding that the night was very dark and

that there was a dense fog to make it worse. The advertising of patent medicines, judiciously done, has brought more than one fortune to the owners. A lady, who Miss Lydia Phipham, has just died in America, who spent regularly £30,000 per annum upon a property of this description, and realised £12,000 a year clear profit upon the sale.

There must be a very large proportion of dishonest people about. Twice lately I have been travelling in a second class carriage on the underground railway. At the last moment, just as the train was moving, an inspector popped in "his head, and, with a pleasant, bland, smile, suggested 'tickets.' The blank expression upon some of the faces when the uniform appeared, told a tale, before the third class ticket was produced. In the one case, five and in the other six, people had to pay the excess and look very mean before their fellow passengers.

A female thief, not unknown in the profession, succeeded in taking away a trunk from the Midland Railway Station at Nottingham. She was unobserved and naturally overjoyed. Upon examining the portmanteau, however, in the sanctity of her bed chamber, she found the contents scarcely these her soul longed for. There was the body of a child in spirits, a human leg, and some other extraordinary items of a like character. She did what many of us do, looked at the matter from one side only, and imagining she was giving valuable information which might lead to the discovery of a dreadful murder, informed the police. Unfortunately the specimens turned out to be the property of a doctor travelling North. This amateur detective will be rewarded in a manner rather foreign to her intentions.

I hear that amongst the donations received to liquidate the debt upon the Headquarters of the Salvation Army at the Grosvenor Theatre were gold and silver watches, gold guards, gold and silver lockets, and other articles of jewellery. These were sold. Watches and jewellery, it is understood, are to be abandoned by all who claim to be true salvationists. The General would doubtless like to bring other personal property, houses and land, under the ban, and decree that all true salvationists should hand them over to the head centre to be converted into "funds."

Houses with French windows facing the lawn, are not always advantageous. I was sitting this summer, with a party under the trees, in the centre of a lawn, all of us deeply engrossed in a game which I will describe below. Suddenly the door bell was heard to peal. "Not at home, all gone out on the river," was the hurried order given to the hand-maid, and we went on contentedly with the game. A moment later the trim waiting maid was seen coming across the lawn. "The lady says she will write a letter," electrified us all and the young hostess, with the consciousness of the happy party under the trees in full view from the house, made a wild dash for the friendly cover of some bushes, while our host, stretched in the sun on an Indian dogley, forsook his comfortable position to go in and explain as best he could that it was only his wife who was not at home. People indulging in large French windows shouldn't tell stories.

The game we were playing was that of letters. This was something more than the ordinary word of eight or nine letters all mixed up, to be put together with more or less success. The letters were turned on their faces. Each of the party turned over in succession in the centre of the table. Say that a y and an n were upon this table and a d next appeared, any boy could say "day," and place the word in front of him. But should another of the party have already made "sun" from the letters in the centre, anybody was at liberty to say "Sunday" and claim the two words. It was in fact a general game of "grab," everybody's hand was against you, yours against everybody's. Whoever made seven words first won the game. No proper nouns are allowed, and a dictionary is rather necessary to settle words under discussion. This game is a good one and most engrossing.

Police Intelligence.

(Before Capt. H. G. Thomsett, R.N.)

Monday, Dec. 10.

A DYNMITE.

Wong Luk, pigkeeper, was charged with exploding dynamite from the Erays. P. C. Hussin Bux said that he had watched defendant and at last caught him in the act of coming out of the water, with fourteen fish, after an explosion had just occurred.

Defendant, who said he felt in the water by accident, was fined 81 or 9 days' hard labour.

BREACH OF OPIUM ORDINANCE.

Chus Ahing was brought up for this offence. P. C. Duncan MacDonald searched his house, under a warrant, and found 3 bags of opium (2nd class) and the usual paraphernalia of an opium den.

Fined 25 or one month's hard labour; the opium to be confiscated.

THEFT.

Obenay Alaw, cook, was charged by Private John Wilson, a Buffs' bandman, with stealing sugar. Wilson arrested the man in the act, and took him to the Police Station.

Defendant said he was sick and wanted some sugar. He had been employed at the barracks for 20 years.

Sentenced to one month's hard labour.

STRAYING A PIG.

Wong Achin, unemployed, was accused of stealing a fowl, the property of a Chinese servant.

Complainant said he saw defendant pick up the fowl and run off with it. He gave chase, calling out "thief," and a foreigner stopped defendant.

Several previous convictions being admitted.

ted, defendant was sentenced to six months' hard labour.

(Before H. E. Wedehouse, Esq.)

ASSAULT.

Four stonecutters were charged with assaulting Lu Tin Shan, another stonecutter.

Complainant said he lived in Tant Tze Mun. On the 9th inst. about noon, he was lying in the cockpit of his house when the four defendants and several others came in, dragged him out and began to beat him. The 1st defendant had an iron bar and the 2nd and 3rd had choppers. The 4th defendant, like the rest of the party, had a stick. They proceeded to beat him, the reason being that complainant had refused a quarry from the Lee family, which defendants wanted to get from him. His brother was there at the time, but only looked on.

This evidence was corroborated in the main by complainant's brother, and Inspector Maick, to whom the affray was reported. Defendants denied the charge. Fined 35 each or six weeks' hard labour, and to be bound over in two sureties of \$10 each to be of good behaviour for six weeks, in default to be committed for a further term of six weeks. They all went to goal.

DISORDERLY.

Bernard McShane, and John Cash, the former from the S. & G. office and the latter from the Buda, were charged with the latter with recklessly using fireworks in the street, and the 2nd with assault and rescuing the 1st defendant from custody.

P. C. 134 said that on the 10th inst. at 1.50 a.m. he was on duty in Graham Street, and heard the report of a gun, and at the same time he saw the two defendants, who at once ran away. He came up to them, however, and searched them, finding a revolver in 1st defendant's pocket. When witness tried to take it away he was assaulted. The defendants went into a room. Witness waited, and on their coming out tried once more to get the revolver, but was again assaulted. He went to the station and reported the affair.

P. C. W. McLean said that, in consequence of a report, he went down to the coffee saloon, and from information he received there he followed the men and arrested them.

John William Moss, a steward unemployed, testified to seeing 1st defendant fire off a revolver in the middle of Gilman Street. Shortly after he saw 1st witness go up and search the 1st defendant. 2nd defendant assaulted the 1st witness.

Both defendants pleaded drunkenness, and said they were innocent. Fined \$5 each or 7 days' hard labour.

Canton.

(From a Correspondent.)

Monday morning.

The excitement has subsided considerably, though in going through the streets many of the usual abusive threats are hurled at the foreigners. The magistrates have issued proclamations prohibiting the sale of any papers calculated to excite the masses to acts of violence. One official notice states that the Government are anxious to preserve amicable relations with foreign countries, but that some evil-disposed persons are bent upon creating disturbances, and on the 5th and 6th of the present (Chinese) month attacked a chapel and committed considerable damage. All such persons are ordered to clear out of Canton; if they do not, but still continue their seditious proceedings, they will be summarily dealt with.

A notice has been served through the Consuls upon all the foreigners in Canton, stating that "all foreigners having occasion to enter or leave the city of Canton should abstain from ascending the city wall, which has at present been reserved for military purposes exclusively."

Four men, I understand, have been captured for selling proclamations falsely so called.

Services for the Chinese Christians were held yesterday in the several chapels, but unusual precautions were taken by the various missionaries. Preaching to the non-Christians portion of Canton has not yet, I think, been resumed. Everything passed off quietly.

On Friday a paper was posted on one of the Chapels belonging to the Wesleyan Mission stating that the place would be pulled down. The issuing of proclamation will in all probability prevent our friends carrying out their kind promise.

The suspension of mission work, or at least its most important agency, viz. preaching to the heathen, is an extreme precaution, whilst it may have much to justify it, still is likely to produce a certain amount of evil, inasmuch as it will give confidence to the turbulent element in the Canton population, and may lead them to think they can do the preaching places at any time by getting up a little excitement. The arguments in its favour are perhaps equally strong and may be summed up as follows. First, no amount of preaching is likely to produce conviction whilst the present excitement continues and those who have become Christians are threatened. Secondly, it increases the difficulties of the local authorities, who, at times, must have their energies taxed to the utmost. Thirdly, should any disturbance occur at any of the preaching rooms, complications with other Western Powers might arise.

I hear that Fattalan has been considerably agitated, but have not heard of any disturbance. A German Missionary is away in the country and news has been received that this house in which he was staying was attacked, and he had to run away in order to escape violence.

Shanghai.

A telegram was received at Shanghai yesterday (Dec. 4th) conveying the intelligence that Mr. Sylvanus Oobv Farnham was dead. This gentleman was the founder of the firm here which still bears his name, though he retired from it in 1877. The deceased came to China in 1852, and on leaving the firm retired to Vallejo, California, where he resided up to the time of his death. Mr. Farnham took a great interest in Freemasonry, and was, while resident here, a prominent member of the Ancient Landmark Lodge. He was noted for his liberality; and it was only a few months ago that he gave a large sum of money to an orphan establishment in California. N. C. D. News.

THE BRITISH TREATY WITH COREA.

We have received the following particulars of the Treaty between Great Britain and Corea, which was signed at Seoul on the 26th November:—

Art. I. provides for Peace and Amity, and for the exercise of good offices in case of these being required by one or other of the contracting powers.

Art. II. provides for Diplomatic and Consular representation.

Art. III. accedes to the British Authorities exclusive jurisdiction in all cases, civil or criminal, brought against British subjects in Corea, either by the Korean Government or by Corea, or by British or other foreign subject or citizen.

Any complaints involving a penalty or confiscation for breach of the Treaty or of the Regulations annexed thereto will also be decided by the British Authorities.

Art. IV. opens the ports of Chumampo (Jenchuan), Wonsan (Gonsan), and Pusan (Fusan), the City of Hangyang (Sail) and the town of Yanghuchuan to British trade. Choices may be made of another port in the neighbourhood of Pusan and of another town in the neighbourhood of Yanghuchuan if these two places should be found unsuitable, but the right to open commercial establishments in Hangyang (the capital) is subject to surrender if the Chinese Government should relinquish that right.

At each of the places named, British subjects may rent or purchase land or houses, and may erect dwellings, warehouses, and factories. The sites for the foreign consulates (except the consulates of the United States and Japan) shall be laid out and laid out by the Korean Government in conjunction with the competent Foreign Authorities, and will be managed by a Council, the constitution of which will be determined in the same way. British subjects will have full liberty to travel and reside in the interior of the country, and will be amenable to the laws, elements or elsewhere to such Municipal Police and other Regulations as may be agreed on by the authorities of the two countries.

Art. V. gives British subjects the right to import into any Korean open port from any foreign port or any Korean open port all kinds of merchandise (excepting prohibited goods); and to export to any Korean open port, or to any foreign port, any Korean produce, and to export to any foreign port, any Korean produce, and to export to any foreign port, any Korean produce.

It provides for drawbacks on foreign goods, and for the refund of duty on Korean produce when proved to have been conveyed to a Korean open port. All goods, that once paid the duty of the tariff may be transported to any Korean open port free of duty, or may be conveyed into the interior free of any additional tax, excise or transit duty whatsoever. Tonnage dues are to be paid at the rate of 30 cents per ton, a single payment being good for four months; and the wharfage and other dues are to be appropriated to the construction of light-houses, buoys, etc., and to the improvement of the anchorage at, and the approaches to, the open ports.

Art. VI. relates to smuggling at non open ports, the penalty being confiscation of the smuggled goods as well as the forfeiture of twice the value of the goods.

Art. VII. details the course to be followed in case of shipwreck, or when a British vessel is stranded on the Korean Coast. All salvaged cargo, or property is to be carefully protected, and the waste of the shipwrecked persons are to be fully provided for.

Art. VIII. relates to ships of war. They may call at any Korean port, may store supplies at the open ports, and may make surveys of the Coast.

Art. IX. sanctions the employment of Korean subjects by British subjects in any lawful capacity.

Art. X. is the favoured nation clause, and accedes to the British Government and subjects all privileges that have been or may hereafter be granted by the Korean Government to the Government or subjects of any other Power.

Art. XI. provides for the revision of the treaty and tariff by mutual consent in ten years.

Art. XII. provides that any dispute as to the meaning of the treaty shall be determined by the English text.

The Regulations of Trade annexed to the treaty define the course of procedure in relation, firstly, to the entrance and clearance of vessels; secondly, to the landing and shipping of cargo and the payment of duties; and, thirdly, to the protection of the revenue.

The Import Tariff in its classified form is arranged under six headings:—

Class I., duty free goods, contains agricultural implements, books, bullion, coins, medals, tacking materials, plants, samples, scientific instruments, travellers' baggage, &c.

